

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 121881
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S: JDAVIDOW:GFH
APPROVED BY AF: WILLIAM B.EDMONDSON
AF/S:DKEOGH
S/S-O:LRRMACFARLNE
P:MR. FORBES

-----262000Z 062180 /64

O P 261944Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121881

EXDIS - CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH

SUBJECT: WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS WITH NATIONALISTS

REF:(A)DAR ES SALAAM 2121, (B) LUSAKA 1468

1. DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH AMBASSADOR SPAIN THAT
THERE IS LITTLE TO BE GAINED BY EMPHASIZING IMPOR-
TANCE OF U.S. ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS TO PARTIES SUCH AS
THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WHO ARE NATURALLY SUSPICIOUS OF
OUR MOTIVES AND GOALS. UNTYPICAL BRITISH TENDENCY TO
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PAGE 02 STATE 121881

OVERSTATEMENT IN THIS REGARD SHOULD BE MONITORED BY
AMBASSADOR LOW.

2. FOLLOWING IS BACKGROUND TO BROWN'S ASSERTION
(PARA 3, REFTELA) THAT CONSULTATIVE GROUP'S WORK IS
BEING MADE MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF WHAT IS CON-
SIDERED TO BE A U.S.-IMPOSED BAN ON DOING ANY KIND

OF WRITTEN BUSINESS WITH THE NATIONALISTS. PRIOR
TO INITIATION OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP'S TRAVELS, THE
BRITISH PASSED US A PROPOSED PLAN OF ACTION WHICH
CONTAINED THE SUGGESTION THAT THE UK ASK FOR WRITTEN

STATEMENTS FROM THENATIONALISTS ON A VARIETY OF
CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES. WE NOTED THAT THIS MIGHT
NOT BE A PROFITABLE APPROACH, AS ONCE COMMITTED TO
WRITING, POSITIONS TEND TO BECOME SET IN CONCRETE
AND NOT SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT OR WITHDRAWAL. WE
ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE NATIONALISTS ARE ALREADY
BITTER ABOUT PREVIOUS BRITISH RELUCTANCE TO PLACE
UK PROPOSALS ON PAPER. THEREFORE, WE SUGGESTED THAT
AFTER THE INITIAL ROUND, CONSULTATIVE GROUP CONSIDER
PRESENTING TO THE INTERESTED PARTIES A BRITISH DRAFT
WHICH THEY COULD THEN COMMENT UPON. OUR SUGGESTION
WAS IN NO WAY MEANT TO BE A TOTAL BAN ON WRITTEN
BUSINESS WITH THE NATIONALISTS. FACT THAT MUZOREWA
PRESENTED DOCUMENT TO GRAHAM IN BOTSWANA MEETING
WOULD SEEM WO INDICATE THAT THIS IS UNDERSTOOD BY
ALL CONCERNED. IF DOUBT PERSISTS, AMBASSADOR LOW
SHOULD SEEK TO CORRECT.

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PAGE 01 STATE 121881
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:AF/S:DKEOGH
APPROVED BY:AF/S:DKEOGH
S/S-O:SSTEINER

-----271855Z 089116 /43

O 271830Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121881

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR LOW

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 121881 ACTION DAR ES SALAAM LUSAKA INFO

CAPE TOWN GABORONE LAGOS LONDON MAPUTO MAY 26.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121881

EXDIS - CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, NATIONALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE121881
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JDAVIDOW:GFH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770188-1024
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770513/aaaaalcd.tel
Line Count: 170
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 145a3289-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 DAR ES SALAAM 2121, 77 LUSAKA 1468
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2352316
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS WITH NATIONALISTS
TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, RH, US
To: DAR ES SALAAM LUSAKA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/145a3289-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009